(ग) और (घ) जी, हां। वर्ष 1991-92 और 1994-95 में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अधीन राज्य सरकारों और उनके नामितियों द्वारा उठान की गई मात्राओं के सम्बन्ध में भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा निम्नलिखित सूचना दी गई है:—

(मात्रा लाख मीटरी टनों में)

		1991-92	1994-95
गेहूं	:	90.49	49.83
चावल	:	103.83	80.13

Strengthening of Consumer Fora

70. SHRI MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide Rs. 61 crore to strengthen and ensure smooth functioning of Consumer fora across the country;

(b) if so, whether Government were aware of the lack of infrastructure faced by the Consumer Fora;

(c) if so, whether any concrete programme of action as to how this amount of Rs. 61 crore will be spent has been formulated;

(d) if so, what are the details of the same;

(e) whether Government have considered various recommendations of the working group, set up by Government; and

(f) if so, how many of the suggestions have so far been considered and by what time they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPTT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) On the initiative taken by Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution, the Planning Commission has agreed to give one time assistance of Rs. 61 crores to the State Governments to strengthen the infrastructure of the consumer courts. This assistance will be over and above their Annual Plan Budget and will be released in four instalments.

The above assistance is to be released to the States/UTs in four half-yearly instalments, in 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(e) and (f) For the above mentioned plan scheme, Central Government has not set up any Working Group.

Import of Wheat and Sugar

71. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, sugar and other foodgrains imported during each of the last three years, year-wise by STC and MMTC;

(b) the rates and countries from which these were imported year-wise;

(c) the foreign exchange spent thereon year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase production of wheat and other foodgrains during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) No quantity of wheat and rice has been imported on govt. account by STC and MMTC during the last 3 years. No sugar has also been imported by STC and MMTC during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94. During 1994-95, a quantity of 9.75 lakh tonnes of sugar valued at US $ 37.93 crores (Provisional) was imported by STC and MMTC. Details regarding rates, countries from which imported etc., are given in Statement (*See* below)